

# Frederica Almanack

# Fort Frederica Living History Festival Celebrates 271st Anniversary of the Founding of Frederica

Fort Frederica National Monument has a quiet and ancient solitude. Stately live oaks and swaying palm trees stand above bleaching ruins and non-obtrusive brick and tabby foundations. Quietly the Frederica River glides past the silenced cannons of Fort Frederica. It is hard to imagine the hustling, bustling town in its heyday. It is far easier to stand in the middle of the townsite and visualize the site as it appeared on the first day of Frederica's life. of Frederica's settlers described that first day in his journal.

"...in the morning we arrived at the island of St. Simons... the ground was covered with long grass. Mr. Tanner fired it, and it destroyed all the vermin, and made the country round clear, so as not [to] be only pleasant to the eye, but convenient for walking...We all made merry that evening, having a plentiful meal of game brought in by the Indians."

Francis Moore, 18 February 1736

From that humble beginning, Frederica quickly grew into a sizable settlement. Ironically, it thrived only as long as it was



The Frederica Living History Festival will feature musket drill and firing. This 1879 engraving from *Our Country: A Household History for all Readers* depicts General James Oglethorpe drilling soldiers at Frederica.

threatened by the Spanish. Its short, tumultuous life ended after the British defeated the Spanish invasion. Following the disbanding of the regiment, settlers left and Frederica fell into disrepair. Crumbling ruins stood where a vibrant town once existed.

Today it is a challenge to bring the history of the site to life in a vivid way. Living history events and programs help visitors connect with the site and its history. On February 17, 2007, the history will become a little more real at the Fort

Frederica Living History Festival. This annual event is a great opportunity to delve into the lifestyles of the original residents of the town and fort.

Volunteers from throughout the region will help visitors discover the history of Frederica during this 271st anniversary of the town's beginnings. Activities throughout the day are designed to engage all visitors, and particularly children, in this history. The Stewart-Law Baroque Ensemble Trio will provide music at 1 PM.

Frederica Folkways	Charles Wesley in Georgia	Name the Artifact	
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## **Opportunities for Exploring Frederica's History**

Fort Frederica's history is complex and difficult to grasp sometimes. Where once a flourishing town stood, bleaching ruins and foundations dot the landscape. Here are a few suggestions to really immerse yourself in Frederica's history.

- ❖ Watch the new park orientation film, *History Uncovered*.
- Attend a ranger-led program.
- Stand at the fort and watch the waters of the Frederica River slip past until a dolphin surfaces or a ship sails past.
- Attend one of the new Frederica Folkway programs.
- Read Francis Moore's Journal while sitting next to his house foundation.
- ❖ Attend the Living History Festival on February 17.
- ❖ Visit the Castillo de San Marcos in St. Augustine, Florida, to learn the Spanish perspective on Frederica's history.
- See the fort from a boat on the Frederica River and estimate the number of times the long-range cannon of Frederica could have shot at you before you could shoot at Frederica.
- ❖ Visit Jekyll Island's Horton House ruins.
- Ask questions of the rangers and volunteers.

Enjoy your time at Fort Frederica National Monument

## Frederica Folkways in 2007

Fort Frederica is pleased to announce the expansion of our ever-increasing interpretive programs.

This year we will present a new monthly program option — Frederica Folkways. These programs will bring the visitor into the 18th century by providing hands-on programs about gardening, cooking and soldiering.

In conjunction with archeology month there will be a special hands-on archeology program in May.

We will also continue our very successful monthly first-person Bloody Marsh musket programs.

Stay tuned as the rangers at Fort Frederica National Monument continue to bring you new and exciting programs.

## 2007 Frederica Folkways Schedule

January 6, 2007, 2 p.m. "18th Century Gardening"

March 3, 2007, 2 p.m. "18th Century Cooking"

April 7, 2007, 2 p.m. "The Life of a Soldier"

May 12, 2007, 2 p.m. "18th Century Cooking"

September 1, 2007, 2 p.m. "The Life of a Soldier"

October 13, 2007, 2 p.m. "Making Tabby"

November 3, 2007, 2. p.m. "Colonial Taverns"

December 1, 2007, 2 p.m. "The Life of a Soldier"

### Experience a Year of History with the Fort Frederica Pass



The number of special programs at Fort Frederica National Monument is growing. With all the new offerings you might want to consider purchasing an annual Fort Frederica pass. The \$10 pass entitles the holder (including spouse, children, and parents) to free admission to Fort Frederica for one year from the time of purchase. You can purchase the pass at the counter in the Visitor Center. A portion of each park pass sale stays in the park and supports special projects and programs.



## Maintenance Matters

While other parts of our country settle in for another cold weather season, national park areas in the South like Fort Frederica National Monument are able to continue year-round maintenance operations without worrying too much about cold temperature conditions. This time of year, our sister parks to the north and west typically slow down their grounds duties and exterior building repairs until warm weather returns. For the staff at Fort Frederica, however, our comfortable South Georgia winter climate makes for comfortable working conditions throughout most fo the year.

With our ability to work outside year-round comes our need to seek volunteer staff support year-round as well. We're always looking for

volunteers with special skills, or just folks who want to give some of their spare time to our wonderful national park system to assist the permanent staff of our maintenance division. Amateur craftsmen can provide their trade skills by working in our fullyequipped maintenance shop. Others with a bent towards the landscape can assist our grounds crew by helping maintain our 18th century cultural landscape. We even have work for amateur horticulturalists who might enjoy spending a few hours a week tending to the Fort Frederica Colonial herb garden. These volunteer positions, to name just a few, have gone vacant in the past. Please consider helping us out this winter!

The entire National Park Service staff (including our volunteers) has a strong commitment to maintain the national monument so you will have a safe and well-kept facility for your entire family to enjoy. Whether it is the repair. rehabilitation or upkeep of building assets, the preservation of the cultural landscape and grounds, or the protection of the natural environment, we strive to provide you with an educational experience that broadens your understanding of our cultural past. Let us ksnow how we're doing. And at the same time, we hope you'll ask for a volunteer application so you can help us improve for those who follow in your footsteps.

Thanks for visiting us today!

## News from Other Papers

Editor's Note: The following is an Gentleman's excerpt from Magazine from March 1740. This leading London paper printed a letter that casts light upon the difficult question of slavery in South Carolina and Georgia — the southern colonies closest to Spanish Florida.

"Sometime since Proclamation was published at Augustine, in which the King of Spain...promised Protection and Freedom to all Negroe Slaves. who would resort Certain thither. Negroes Davis belonging to Capt. escaped to Augustine, and were received there;

a were demanded by General Oglethorpe who sent Lieut. Demere to Augustine.... Since the good Reception of the Negroes at Augustine was spread about. attempted to escape to the Spaniards, and were taken, one of them was hang'd at they Charles Town."

### Fort Frederica Needs You!



Are you interested in history? Would you like to help share the story of Fort Frederica and the early settlement of the Colony of Georgia? Do you want to help the National Park Service preserve this incredible place for future generations?

If so, please consider becoming a National Park Service volunteer. If you are interested in making a difference in your national park, please visit the Visitor Center to get a volunteer application or contact volunteer coordinator Jon Burpee at 912-638-3639 or e-mail Ion Burpee@nps.gov.

#### Accessibility at Fort Frederica National Monument

At Fort Frederica National Monument we want everyone to be able to experience the surprising history of Fort Frederica. To accomplish this goal, we offer a few services to allow everyone the opportunity to explore this history fully.

**Golf Carts** - for those with mobility impairment a golf cart can be used. Simply inquire with a ranger or volunteer at the front desk. In order to reserve a cart you will need to supply a driver's license, which will be returned upon the return of the cart.

**Open Captioning** for the film *History Uncovered* - captions are specifically designed for viewers with hearing loss to enable their full participation when viewing the park film. The captions include information regarding

on- and off-screen sound effects such as music or laughter.
Captions also hold secondary benefits for people who are learning a foreign language, or learning how to read, as well as those who understand best by processing visual information.

**Audio Description** for the film *History Uncovered* - audio description describes the visual content of the film. It provides individuals who are visually impaired with information that further describes the visual content not provided by the primary audio track. An audio description narrator describes actions, gestures, scene changes, and other visual information.

If there is any way that we can make your visit better, please let us know.

# Help the Park — Recycle Your Brochure

While visiting the park you may have noticed a couple of wooden boxes for recycled brochures at the Visitor Center and near the Cemetery. Due to rising costs to print these beautiful color pamphlets, we are trying to conserve our resources by recycling the brochures for future visitors. If you do not want to keep your brochure as a souvenir please do your part by using the recycling boxes. Thank you!

## Safety -It's Everyone's Responsibility



Fort Frederica National Monument is committed to providing visitors with a quality and safe experience and you can help.

#### Safety Notes

- Please take note of any signs that guard against hazards.
- While walking the beautiful tree-lined streets, watch out for hazardous limbs.
- Please do NOT seek shelter under any of the huge live oaks if thunder and lightning are in the area.
- Please stay out of ruins to help us preserve them for the future.

Although we strive for a safe environment, we may miss something. Please let us know how we can improve.



#### Focus on Frederica's Residents:

## Charles Wesley in Georgia



The Reverend Charles Wesley at Oxford, England

Charles Wesley was instrumental in the founding of modern Methodism though his brother John is more famous. Charles is known as a writer of over 6,000 hymns, including "Hark, the Herald Angel Sings" and "Christ the Lord is Risen Today." As a young minister with his first parish in the frontier of Georgia, he found his evangelical duties very trying. His experiences at Frederica illuminate many of the difficulties for settlers from British cities as they attempted to create a home in the wilderness.

#### Before Georgia

Charles Wesley was born in Epworth, England, in 1707 and was the 18th of 19 children. His father was an Anglican preacher and Charles followed in his footsteps after his education. He attended Westminster School and Christ Church, Oxford, where he graduated in 1729.

Working as a college tutor, he was a founder of the Holy Club at Oxford, but appeared somewhat reluctant to become a minister. In September 1735, however, he was ordained as a deacon and then as a priest in the Anglican Church. Wihin a month he was on a

journey to the first trial of his life as a minister.

#### Charles Wesley In Georgia

Charles Wesley set sail for Georgia on October 21, 1735, with his brother John, who was doing missionary work for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. While John was assigned to be the minister of Savannah, Charles came in the official capacity of General Oglethorpe's secretary of Indian affairs and as minister to the soldiers and settlers of Frederica. He arrived on March 9, 1736, and recorded in his journal, "about three in the afternoon, I first set foot on St. Simons island, and immediately my spirit revived. No sooner did I enter upon my ministry, than God game me, like Saul, another heart..."

When Charles arrived at Frederica he found very primitive conditions and held services in the open and small prayer meetings in the temporary palmetto huts the settlers constructed. Preaching, however, was not his only job at Frederica. Seven days after his arrival he recorded in his journal, "I was wholly spent in writing letters for Mr. Oglethorpe. I would not spend six days more in the same manner for all Georgia."

Wesley was constantly involved in the personal struggles of Frederica's settlers and quickly earned James Oglethorpe's disfavor. In his journal, he noted, "At half-hour past seven Mr. Oglethorpe called me out of my hut. I looked up to God, and went. He charged me with mutiny and sedition; with stirring up the people to desert the colony."

At this point in life, Charles lacked the physical, emotional and mental stamina needed to cope with such a difficult life on the Georgia frontier. While Charles had no love for the conditions in Georgia, many of the Georgia settlers had no great love for the Wesleys. To recent settlers struggling to survive on the harsh frontier, the immediate needs of safety and survival mattered far more than the strict piety espoused by both John and Charles Wesley.

On May 12, 1735, Charles left Frederica eventually bound for England. He recorded his feelings in his journal, "I was overjoyed at my deliverance out of this furnace, and not a little ashamed of myself for being so."

#### Charles Wesley After Georgia

Back in England, Charles' spiritual growth continued. He served as a curate at St. Mary's, Islington, for a short period in 1738, but upon increasing opposition from both parish and diocese he "took to the fields."

As an itinerant evangelist he preached all over England, Wales and Ireland. By 1756, Charles had ceased his itinerant practice and confined his preaching to Bristol, home of his family, and in London. At times he argued with his brother John over the direction of Methodism. He died at the age of 80 in 1788 and is buried in the churchyard at Marylebone.

## Fort Frederica National Monument 2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All programs, dates and scheduled times subject to change (912) 638-3639 www.nps.gov/fofr

JANUARY	<b>FEBRUARY</b>	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
Frederica Folkways:	17 Living History	3 Frederica Folkways:	7 Frederica Folkways:	5 Hands-on-	Archeology Camp
18th Century	Festival	18th Century Cooking	The Life of a Soldier	Archeology Program	
Gardening	9 AM - 4 PM	2:00 PM	2:00 PM	2:00 PM	23 Bloody Marsh
2:00 PM					Musket Program
	24 Bloody Marsh	10 Gardening	28 Bloody Marsh	12 Frederica	2:00 PM
27 Bloody Marsh	Musket Program		Musket Program	Folkways: 18th	
Musket Program	2:00 PM	24 Bloody Marsh	2:00 PM	Century Cooking	26-28 Hands-On-
2:00 PM		Musket Program		2:00 PM	History Camp
en.		2:00 PM			
				25 Bloody Marsh	
III.				Musket Program	Daily Ranger
			46-57	2:00 PM	Programs
			8 &		11 & 2
JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
28 Bloody Marsh	25 Bloody Marsh	Public Lands Month	13 Frederica	3 Frederica Folkways:	3 Frederica
Musket Program	Musket Program	1 Frederica	Folkways: Making	Taverns	Folkways:The Life of
2:00 PM	2:00 PM	Folkways:The Life of	Tabby	2:00 PM	a Soldier
	100	a Soldier	2:00 PM		2:00 PM
	E.	2:00 PM		18 Bloody Marsh	
			27 Bloody Marsh	Musket Program	15 General
	200	22 Bloody Marsh	Musket Program	2:00 PM	Oglethorpe's Birthday
	801 /	Musket Program	2:00 PM		Celebration
		2:00 PM			
	20 0				25 Christmas Day
Daily Ranger	Daily Ranger	29 An Evening in a			(Park Closed)
Programs	Programs	Colonial Tavern 7:00			
i rograms	11 & 2				

Frederica Folkways



January 6 (18th Century Gardening)
March 3 (18th Century Cooking)

Join a National Park Service ranger for hands-on activities designed to explore the history of Frederica.

A great opportunity to have fun while learning about our past!

For more information please contact the Fort Frederica Visitor Center at 912-638-3639.

A Demonstration of the new King's Arm, Long Land Pattern Musket.

Including,

A Description of the Battle of Bloody Marsh and the

Method used to win the late war against the forces of Spain

and the

effects of this war upon the future of Frederica and the Colony of Georgia As told by

A Soldier in his Majesty's Army serving in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Foot. Saturday, January 27, 2006. 2:00 PM Saturday, February 24, 2006. 2:00 PM Saturday, March 24, 2006. 2:00 PM Battle of Bloody Marsh Site.



## Archeological Artifacts: Personal Items

These objects were all found at Frederica during archeological excavations. By knowing how these objects were used by people, archeologists can get a glimpse of social activities, dress fashion and personal hygiene.

For example, clothing rots and usually isn't recovered in an excavation, but items used with the clothing, like buttons and buckles, do survive, giving us a hint of what was worn. Out of all the types of artifacts found at Frederica, personal items are a small percentage.



**❖Ivory Comb** This is the only example in Frederica's collection.



❖Glass Bottle Stopper

Used on perfume bottles.

**❖Clay Wig Curlers** Used to put curls in wigs. Curlers were wrapped in hair, tied and baked.



**♦ Clay Pipes** Used to smoke tobacco. Many pipes have maker's marks and seals on them.



**National Park Service** U.S. Department of the Interior

Fort Frederica National Monument is a premier historical and archaeological site that shares and preserves the history associated with the British settlement of the Colony of Georgia and the struggle with Spain for control of the region. The National Park Service values working with partners and the public to bring this special history to life.

Fort Frederica National Monument 6515 Frederica Road St. Simons Island, GA 31522

Phone 912-638-3639

Web Site Adress www.nps.gov/fofr/

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



❖Brass Buckle Used on soldier's leather gear.



❖Brass & Pewter Buttons

from a coat.

Used on articles of clothing. The

large pewter button is probably

Clay Marbles Used by both adults and children to pass time.



The Frederica Almanack is published quarterly by Fort Frederica National Monument. The purpose of the Almanack is to provide information about Fort Frederica NM to interested visitors, partners, and volunteers. The Volunteer Dispatch is named after military dispatches that were sent to posts and troops throughout Coastal Georgia. The Almanack is also available online at www.nps.gov/fofr.

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#### **New Junior Rangers**



Every year, hundreds of young visitors complete the requirements to earn a Fort Frederica Junior Ranger Badge. If you want more information on the Junior Ranger program ask a ranger in the Visitor Center.

A few of the latest Junior Rangers include:

- ★Dylan Ratliff, age 7, Powhatan, VA
- ★Hannah McDuffee, age 11, Alpharetta, GA
- ★Caleb McDuffee, age 9, Alpharetta, GA
- ★Garret Biel, age 9, Cumming, GA
- ★Margaret Feltman, age 7, Orange City, FL
- ★Levi Roady, age 9, Santa Fe, TX
- ★Gabby Freeman, age 8, Newnan, GA
- ★Ashley Freeman, age 10, Newnan, GA
- ★Rachel Scaglione, age 8, Brooksville, FL
- ★Andrew Scaglione, age 9, Brooksville, FL
- ★ Nathan Seitz, age 12, York Springs, PA
- ★ Maggie Brennan, age 4, Virginia Beach, VA
- ★Teaghan Brennan, age 6, Virginia Beach, VA
- ★Michael Carson, age 3, Onieda, FL
- ★Hayle Crews, age 10, Warner Robins, GA
- ★Jared Crews, age 12, Warner Robins, GA
- ★Micah Crews, age 9, Warner Robins, GA ★Ben Davis, age 11, Warner Robins, GA
- ★Darlyn Davis, age 9, Warner Robins, GA
- ★Troy Littel, age 11, Conyers, GA

- **★**Joanna Haines, age 8, Chapin, SC
- ★Pierson Haines, age 10, Chapin, SC
- ★Alexa Allen, age 9, Ft. Benning, GA
- ★Drake Allen, age 5, Ft. Benning, GA
- ★Chase Allen, age 5, Ft. Benning, GA
- ★Malcolm Lewis, age 6, Evans, GA
- ★Capone Strange, age 9, Oneida, TN
- ★Bobby Simpson, age 12, Buford, GA
- ★ Chelsea Forrester, age 11, Buford, GA
- ★Emma Sterwert, age 8, Hamilton, OH
- ★Shelby Sterwert, age 11, Hamilton, OH
- ★Sydney Sterwert, age 5, Hamilton, OH
- ★Opal Harrod, age II, Oxford, OH
- ★Savannah Wendt, age 9, Oxford, OH
- ★Dallin Anderson, age 7, Athens, GA
- ★Miles Anderson, age 5, Athens, GA
- ★Madison McMichael, age 9, Columbus, GA
- ★Joseph Kidd, age II, Winston-Salem, NC
- ★Abigail Kidd, age 9, Winston-Salem, NC
- ★Lucy Aguilar, age 9, Atlanta, GA

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